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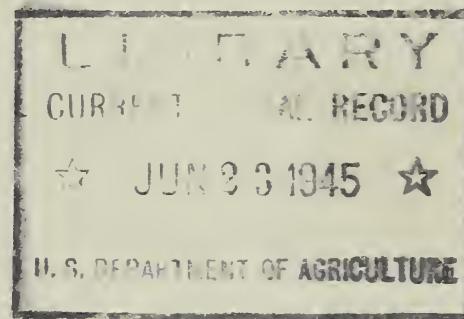
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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STATE COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS
OF
FARMER COOPERATIVES

By

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The Cooperative Research and Service Division conducts research studies and service activities relating to problems of management, organization, policies, merchandising, sales, costs, competition, and membership arising in connection with the cooperative marketing of agricultural products and the cooperative purchase of farm supplies and services; publishes the results of such studies; confers and advises with officials of farmers' cooperative associations; and cooperates with educational agencies, cooperatives associations, and others in the dissemination of information relating to cooperative principles and practices.

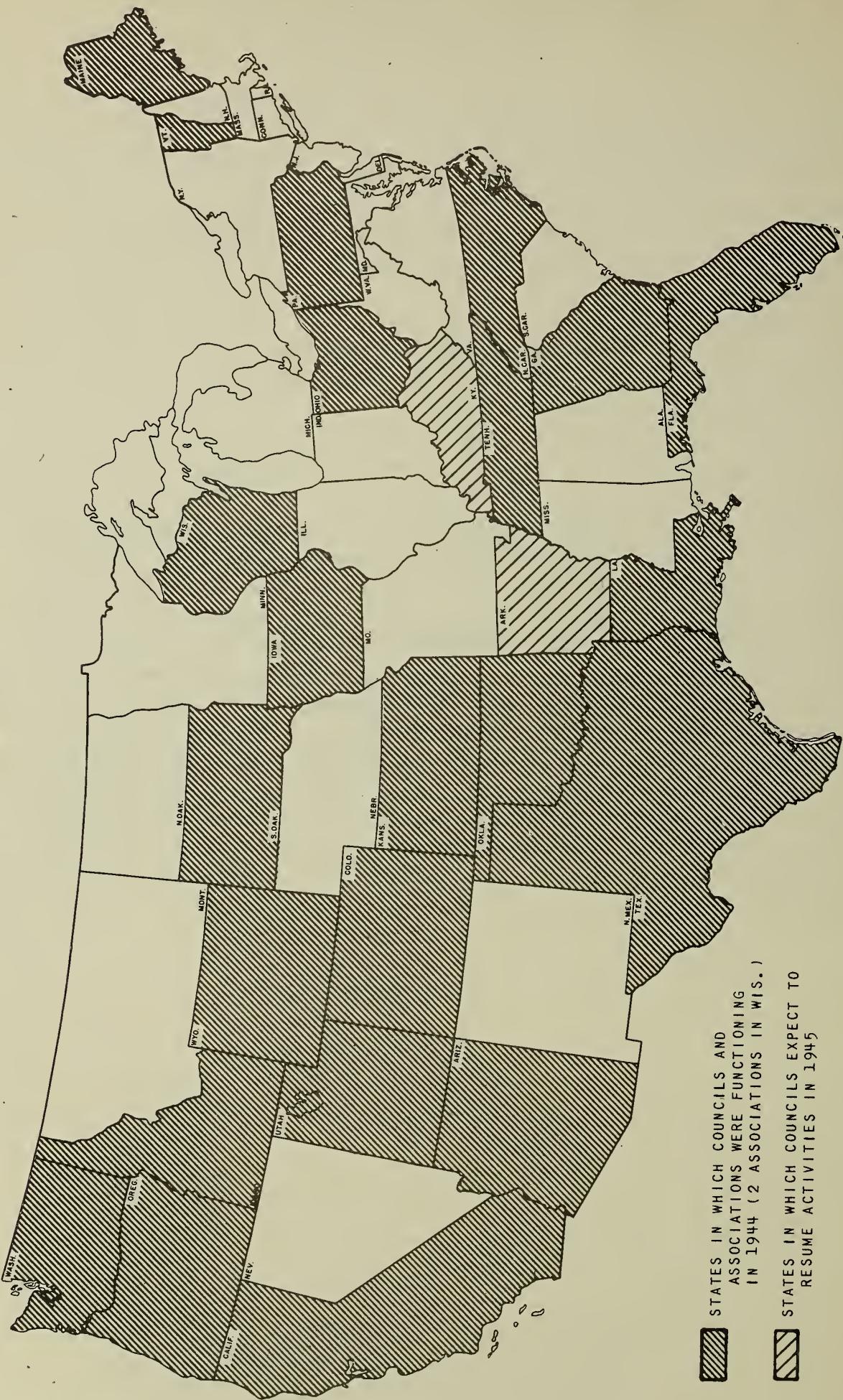
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STATUS OF STATE COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF COOPERATIVES
DECEMBER 1944

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SUMMARY

The first steps to organize State councils of farmer cooperatives were taken 25 years ago. Since that time, 29 such associations have been formed. At the close of 1944, 24 of this number were actively engaged in serving agricultural cooperatives and agriculture in general, two were in the process of reorganization after a period of inactivity and three had ceased to function.

As agricultural cooperatives become more important and the need for informing the general public of the principles and benefits of the cooperative movement increases, State councils are enlarging their memberships, providing more adequate budgets, and developing constructive programs. Inactive councils are renewing their memberships and new organizations are being formed in several States.

The first groups of agricultural cooperatives were concerned chiefly with legislative problems, but as the cooperative movement grew the leaders saw the need for educational work and for the development of smooth working relationships among themselves and with other organizations.

The objectives of State councils or associations of cooperatives may be summarized briefly as follows:

1. To promote and foster the welfare of farmers' cooperative associations within a State by bringing together cooperatives and other organizations interested in the furtherance of cooperation for the purposes of study, discussion, and the solution of mutual problems.
2. To assist and encourage the organization of true farmers' cooperatives in every field.
3. To gather and disseminate information concerning the history, development, and growth of cooperatives, their functions, rights and practices, and their contribution to the welfare of the American people.
4. To sponsor and support constructive legislation which will be valuable to farmers' cooperative associations and to agriculture in general, and to oppose all measures unfair to agricultural cooperation.
5. To assist farmers' cooperative associations, Federal and State agencies, extension and vocational groups, colleges, and other agencies cooperating in the State, in the promotion of educational methods which will benefit the cooperative movement and give the general public an understanding of the principles and practices of cooperatives.

State councils or associations of cooperatives are all set up with practically the same objectives, but they differ in characteristics and methods of functioning. Some limit their membership to farm commodity associations. Others include general farm organizations. Among the State councils that include general farm organizations as members are those in Oregon, Ohio, Oklahoma, Kansas, and the Wisconsin Council of Agriculture. Some limit their membership to State-wide or federated

types of cooperatives. A few associations have active members only, while a greater number have provisions for associate or advisory memberships.

State councils differ considerably in their methods of financing their activities. Some carry on broad programs, have rather large budgets, and maintain full-time personnel. Others function with limited budgets but have close working relationships with extension services, educational agencies, or farm organizations upon which they depend for assistance in carrying on their work. At the close of 1944, California, Ohio, Texas, Kansas, Colorado, Vermont, and both Wisconsin associations were employing full-time staffs and a few others either were in the process of installing or were considering the installation of full-time staffs.

Among the earliest councils set up were those in California, Oregon, and Wisconsin. The Agricultural Legislative Committee of California was formed in 1919, and later became the Agricultural Council of California. The Agricultural Cooperative Council of Oregon was organized in 1921 and the Wisconsin Council of Agriculture (Cooperative) in 1926. Twenty-six councils have been formed since 1930, though not all of them are now active.

To keep in touch with matters of national scope the councils have become affiliated with national organizations of cooperatives. Seventeen of the councils are associate members of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, and five are affiliated with the newly formed National Association of Cooperatives.

The National Council of Farmer Cooperatives was organized in 1929. It classifies its work broadly in three parts:

1. "Working with Congress, with various economic groups, and with officials in Government bureaus, on matters directly affecting cooperatives or agriculture as a whole, in line with stated Council policies on the matters under discussion."
2. "Handling specific requests of member organizations for work with Congress or with officials in Government bureaus, which may be in the interest of the single cooperative, commodity group, or the entire Council membership."
3. "Promoting the interest of farmer cooperative through an educational and information service direct to cooperatives and by operating as a forum or conference body through which cooperative views may be harmonized, bonds of friendship developed, and experiences exchanged - all to the end of solidifying the cooperative movement."

The National Association of Cooperatives was organized in 1944. It is set up as a national coordinating agency of farmer cooperatives for handling legislative and educational matters. Its program and policies are similar to those of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. The two national associations are cooperating in their efforts to assist and promote all farm cooperatives.

The organization features and activities of each State council are presented herein in the order of their dates of organization and continuous activity. A table showing the important organization characteristics of each council appears on pages 30 through 33.

STATE COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

By Jane L. Scearce, Agricultural Economist

The widespread trend toward large-scale and over-all organization has reached the point where it becomes necessary for even groups of individuals to coordinate their efforts so as to be most effective in reaching their common objectives. Thus, farmers' cooperative organizations, when faced with problems too large and too involved for the small or moderate-sized association, have come to form larger groups on an industry or a commodity basis. These groups are not always continuous in their activities, but may arise during a period when they are called upon to meet a special need and become inactive when the crisis has passed. The purpose of the present study, made by the Cooperative Research and Service Division, was to assemble information regarding the various State groups of agricultural cooperatives, their objectives and their activities, for the benefit of other groups with similar problems and interests.

THE AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

The Agricultural Council of California was one of the first State agricultural councils to function in the United States. It was organized originally in December 1919, as the Agricultural Legislative Committee of California. The present name was adopted in September 1933.

With the formation of the committee the various farm groups, by then organized on a commodity basis, became an authoritative legislative voice. Prior to 1919, the differing opinions and lack of unity had created an obstacle for farmers in obtaining favorable legislation. Moreover, there was need of united action to prevent the enactment of legislation antagonistic to the interests of agriculture. As problems of common interest arose, the committee felt the need to expand its activities to include public relations and educational programs.

Membership of the council is limited to farm commodity and service organizations and is composed largely of farmers' cooperative marketing and purchasing associations. Public organizations or agencies representing the State or county are not eligible for membership. Since the formation of the committee, practically all the farm commodity organizations in the State have been enrolled as members. Today the council represents nearly 70,000 farmers of California through 32 commodity organizations. Officers of the three State-wide general farm organizations have a standing invitation to attend all council meetings. The council serves as a coordinator of activities between many Government agencies and agricultural groups.

NOTE. - The author wishes to express appreciation to the officials of the State councils and the associations of farm cooperatives in supplying information for this study and for their cooperation in the preparation of the material, and to Dr. W. W. Fetrow of the Cooperative Research and Service Division for his helpful suggestions and assistance.

The council's continuous legislative program has helped to prevent enactment of many ill-advised proposals introduced in the State legislature by persons with little knowledge of their probable effect on agriculture. It has also suggested improvements in existing laws and has kept farm groups informed of proposed legislation and bills that concern them.

Once in every 2 years the council makes detailed studies of the work and the budgets of the State Department of Agriculture and of the College of Agriculture, University of California. The results of these surveys create better understanding and appreciation by the farm people of the activities and problems of these institutions. The making of the studies also brings together responsible administrators of the institutions and farm leaders.

A weekly newspaper column for the discussion of farm problems is maintained to acquaint the people with the principles of cooperation and facts regarding all questions of agriculture, both State and national.

The council is not incorporated and has no formal constitution or bylaws. It is maintained only by virtue of the voluntary association of its members, on the basis of general agreement at the time of organization, supplemented by action taken from time to time as the need arises.

Each member organization names a representative to the council, who serves until the organization names another person to take his place. An executive committee of nine (including the vice-president and the president *ex officio*) has general charge of the business of the council. The committee handles the details of all business between meetings and carries out the policies established at the meetings. The council meets once a year, except during legislative years, when from one to three extra meetings are held to consider legislation affecting agriculture and the budgets of the State Department of Agriculture and the College of Agriculture of the University of California.

Financial support is by annual assessments designed to cover the amount necessary to enable the council to function for the ensuing year. The annual assessment per member organization has ranged from \$100 to \$125 for each million dollars of business done. The present assessment is at the rate of \$100 for each million dollars of gross f.o.b. business done by the member during its last fiscal year prior to the beginning of the council's new fiscal year for which the assessment is required, with a minimum assessment of \$100.

The council employs a full-time secretary and a clerk-stenographer. During the sessions of the legislature, additional personnel is employed. This personnel is temporary and usually is required from 4 to 6 months each in 2 years.

Some of the factors which have contributed to the long-standing success of the council are:

1. Leadership - the council always has been made up of men who act fairly and squarely for agriculture. Each member has endeavored to select its most reputable and experienced men to represent it.

2. An alert full-time personnel.
3. Policy and procedure - the council has made a business of studying all problems carefully before taking any action. It has respected the rights of all groups and never has favored any special privileges.
4. A smooth working relationship with all agencies, organizations, and educational institutions in the State.

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE COUNCIL OF OREGON

Among the oldest of the State councils, the Agricultural Cooperative Council of Oregon was organized on June 16, 1921, at the conclusion of a marketing conference, which was the feature of the Farmers' Week held at Oregon State College. At that time cooperative marketing was beginning to be an important issue in Oregon.

At the close of 1944 the council had 55 members. Those of active status include fruit growers, grain associations, creameries, nut marketing associations, livestock and wool growers, poultry producers, farm supply groups, the Oregon State Farmers Union, the Oregon State Farm Bureau, and the Oregon State Grange. Associate members include the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the State Agricultural Extension Service, and the Division of Agricultural Economics of Oregon State College.

Practically no effort has been made to increase the membership of the council, but it has grown substantially in the past few years. From the beginning, the older and stronger cooperatives in the State have taken an active part in the organization. It is the policy of the council to encourage local associations to become members rather than to be represented through federations.

Upon admission, each member pays \$5, but credit is given for this amount in his initial dues levy. Every member pays in advance an amount determined by the board, not to exceed 5 cents for each \$1,000 of gross business (f.o.b. shipping point base) done during the last fiscal year preceding the due date of the fee, providing that the minimum annual dues are \$5. An associate member pays \$5 annually. So far, the highest levy on volume has been $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per \$1,000. For the fiscal year 1943, no levy whatsoever was made.

In all business meetings, each active member has one vote. No voting is done by proxy, but mail balloting on special measures and questions is authorized by the president. Although not so stated in the bylaws, the policy of the council has been to transact all business by unanimous vote.

The council has a directorate of 15 members, each serving for a term of 1 year. The directors are named, one from each of the nine major commodity classification groups and the remaining six are chosen at large. The chairman and the vice-chairman of the directorate serve as president

and vice-president of the council. The directorate elects from its number an executive committee of five, including the chairman and vice-chairman. The president names a committee of three on finance and audit, from the board of directors, and this committee authorizes all expenditures and audits the books. The council holds three or four meetings each year and has a policy of holding other than the annual meeting at the headquarters of its member associations. This enables the members to become better acquainted with the operations, properties, and environment of all affiliated organizations.

No regular office force is maintained by the council. An arrangement made at the time of its formation, for the Extension Service of Oregon State College to provide the secretarial service, is still in effect. Also, the services of paid clerical help are sometimes required.

At the offset, the council had a somewhat loosely-drawn constitution with no provisions for membership dues and a rather broad definition of the term member, the aim being to avoid formality and to eliminate problems that arise in connection with salaried officers. But the council soon realized that to function effectively it must meet certain expenses. Therefore, provision was made for membership fees, and its program considerably broadened. A stricter definition was given membership qualifications. In 1928, the council underwent a complete reorganization, adopting a new constitution and bylaws, and in 1941, it was incorporated under the cooperative marketing laws of Oregon.

Upon incorporation in 1941, finances were placed upon an annual dues basis with individual member association dues related to volume of business. Dues-paying but nonvoting associate memberships and a board of directors were provided at that time. Any agricultural cooperative marketing or supply association or general State-wide farm organization is eligible for active membership. Public service agencies and all other members are classed as associates.

The general policy of the council has been to confine its operations and activities to matters that directly affect cooperatives. The membership feels that the broad phases of agricultural policies should be left to the general farm organizations.

The council has maintained a close working relationship with the Extension Service. It participates in marketing institutes and educational programs offered by the Extension Service, and jointly sponsors cooperative marketing schools for association directors and managers. Active parts in the programs of the American Institute of Cooperation have been taken by representatives of the council.

Farm cooperatives in Oregon are among the best advised groups in the United States, relative to Federal income tax, workman's compensation insurance, "wage-hour," and Social Security provisions. The council has helped materially in this connection. The *Council News Letter*, a mimeographed news release, is one medium of information to members. Series of radio talks are used to bring vital information and viewpoints to the farmers.

The council's legislative committee has been active since its organization. It was instrumental in revising the Oregon Cooperative Marketing Law, thereby giving Oregon one of the broadest and best cooperative acts in the country. It also drew the bill for the State Market Agent Law. It requested rulings on the transportation and shipping of canned goods and dried fruits, secured an extension of the Federal leased wire marketing service from San Francisco to Portland, recommended Federal inspection of butter and eggs in the Portland market, and assisted in securing a tariff on the importation of bananas.

At the present time, the council is placing heavy emphasis upon better membership and public relations work locally by the member associations.

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE (CO-OPERATIVE)

The Wisconsin Council of Agriculture (Co-operative) is one of the largest and most active State councils. At present it has 39 members composed of 2 general farm organizations and 37 cooperative marketing and farm supply purchasing associations. Most of the member associations are State-wide in scope, embracing several hundred local associations. Since 1937, the council has maintained a full-time secretary and office force.

The council was organized to serve as a point of contact between farm organizations, to harmonize their relations, to support necessary agricultural legislation, and in general to promote the interests of cooperatives.

Leaders of three general farm organizations and several cooperative marketing associations in Wisconsin organized the Wisconsin Council of Agriculture (Co-operative) in 1926. The council was incorporated under the cooperative law of Wisconsin in 1928.

To be eligible for membership, an organization must consist of farmers, must be farmer controlled, and must be organized under the cooperative law of the State. The council's membership includes the following:

1. General educational farm organizations
2. Bona fide cooperative marketing associations
3. Bona fide cooperative farm supply purchasing associations
4. Breeding associations and other farm organizations and associations composed primarily of farmers engaged in promoting the welfare of agriculture and the improvement of rural life.

Representatives of educational and administrative agricultural organizations are admitted in an ex officio advisory capacity. These include the College of Agriculture, Wisconsin State Department of Agriculture, Wisconsin Extension Service, Department of Agricultural Education, River Falls State Teachers College, and the Rural Division of the State Board of Vocational and Adult Education.

At annual meetings each member is entitled to at least 1 voting delegate, and no association is permitted to have more than 10 voting delegates. Prior to the annual meeting, the number of voting delegates from each association is determined by the executive committee on the basis of membership in the association. Each ex officio advisor has the right to designate a nonvoting representative to sit in session with the board of directors. Also, associations that contribute less than the minimum annual dues as affiliate associations may have a nonvoting representative, elected by the board, attend board meetings.

A fee of \$5 is required upon admission to membership. General educational welfare associations pay annual dues in the amount of \$50 per member association, plus 1 percent of the total membership fees received for the last fiscal year; while cooperative marketing, purchasing, and bargaining associations pay \$50 per member association, plus 0.5 percent of the association's income for the last fiscal year. Annual dues are paid in advance on a monthly, quarterly, semiannual, or annual basis as agreed upon.

Every member is entitled to one representative on the board of directors. This representative, nominated by his member organization, is elected for a term of 1 year by a majority vote at the annual meeting of the voting delegates. An executive committee of seven is elected by the directors to carry on the details of business between annual meetings and to act on minor policies. Each member of the executive committee receives actual traveling expenses and per diem not to exceed \$5 for the time covered in attending executive committee meetings.

The regular annual meeting of the council is held during the week including the dates of the Farmers' Get-Together Conference, which is sponsored by the council and takes place usually during November.

The Farmers' Get-Together Conference provides an opportunity for farm leaders from all parts of the State, representing a complete cross section of agricultural interests, to come together for an informational and inspirational program. This conference is financed by the council. The conference was first held in 1929. Since then it has played an important role in the progress of organized agriculture and cooperative marketing in Wisconsin.

The council has taken part in the promotion of sound and sane nutritional programs. Before the Interstate Commerce Commission and the State Public Service Commission the council has opposed freight rates that were unfair to agriculture, advocated a sane program of settler-relocation under Wisconsin's plan of land zoning, fought against fraud and deception, cooperated with State and Federal war agencies, and worked diligently to gain more adequate supplies of farm labor and equipment to meet the needs of greater wartime food and fibre production.

Weekly, during legislative sessions and at various intervals during the year, a news letter is sent to 1,500 farm leaders, extension workers,

and agricultural teachers. News releases of general agricultural interests are supplied to the farm press and the daily and weekly newspapers in the State. The council maintains a regular monthly radio broadcast over State stations, and otherwise makes the building of stronger and better farm cooperatives one of its chief objectives.

The council takes an active part in State legislation. It has supported many bills and has been instrumental in the passage of numerous acts affecting farm safety education; transportation regulations; the handling of farm products and supplies; grading, bonding, and licensing of dairy products; farm labor; and taxes. Studies and recommendations have been made regarding patents and monopolies, and the inter-relationships of industry, agriculture, and labor.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF CO-OPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

The Pennsylvania Association of Co-Operative Organizations encourages leaders of different cooperatives to become acquainted with each other and to discuss their mutual problems. As a result, the cooperatives of Pennsylvania are supporting each other in State and national farm issues. The association had its inception in 1926 at an informal meeting of cooperatives held at Pennsylvania State College. It was formally set up in December of 1933.

Only agricultural cooperative marketing, purchasing, and bargaining associations incorporated, owned, and controlled by farmers are eligible for membership. Although the bylaws make no provisions for associate members, representatives of Pennsylvania State College, of the Department of Agriculture at Harrisburg, and of the Agricultural Educational Department at Harrisburg attend the meetings in an advisory capacity. At the close of 1944, the membership consisted of approximately 25 cooperative associations made up principally of dairy and poultry marketing and of purchasing organizations.

The association is supported by annual membership fees of \$10. A councilor or representative, designated by each member organization, is entitled to one vote in the affairs of the association. Voting by proxy or wire is accepted only on legislative questions.

An executive board of 10 consisting of the president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, and 7 other members elected from the councilors has charge of the business affairs of the association. The members of the board, so far as possible, represent different commodities of cooperative business.

An auditing committee of three is appointed by the president to audit the books of the association and to present its report at the annual meeting.

The association maintains a legislative committee which keeps in close touch with State legislative activities and informs the members of the

progress of bills and measures affecting agriculture. It has consistently supported legislation which it considered to be sound and opposed that which was unfair. The association succeeded in writing a new cooperative law for Pennsylvania in 1929 and several times it has suggested amendments to the existing law. It was instrumental in securing amendments to the Public Utility Law which greatly benefited its members in the hauling of farm products and supplies.

A close working relationship is maintained with the Pennsylvania Council of Farm Organizations, of which the association is a member. The Council of Farm Organizations includes all farm organizations in the State and operates on a somewhat broader scale. Legislative programs of the two organizations are usually combined.

The association has never employed regular personnel but some consideration has been given to setting up a full time staff. The manager of the Producers' Cooperative Exchange now serves as secretary to the association.

OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

The Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council, organized in 1929, has both active and associate members. The active members consist of five major cooperative associations, including livestock, wool, cotton, dairy, and farm supply cooperatives; the Oklahoma State Grange; the Oklahoma Farm Bureau; and the Farmers' Cooperative Grain Dealers Association of Oklahoma. The associate members comprise the State Board of Agriculture, Division of Vocational Agriculture, Extension Service of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, the Farmer-Stockman, and the Farm Credit Administration of Wichita, Kansas.

The council holds four meetings each year to discuss problems and to formulate plans. These frequent contacts enable the various groups to become better acquainted and to work for a common interest.

Annual cooperative short courses have been held by the Council for about 8 years. For the first 4 years 1-day short courses were held in four sections of the State for adult cooperative leaders. The next 2 years a short course was held at Camp Redlands, Lake Carl Blackwell, for boys between the ages of 16 and 21. These courses were well attended until 1943 when military service took most of the young men. In 1943 and 1944 a 2-day course for managers, directors, and farm leaders was substituted. In 1944 some 131 leaders registered for the 2-day course.

The expenditures of the council are met by membership fees. Each active member pays a fee of \$10 per year, and if additional funds are needed a special assessment is made. In business matters each member is entitled to one vote. Associate members may participate in the meetings but have no voting status. An executive committee of three is appointed by the president to look after the business details. The members of the committee serve for 1 year. No office force is employed by the council, but through an arrangement with the Extension Service of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, the State extension economist serves as secretary to the council.

Outstanding work in cooperation is recognized by the council. Each year plaques are awarded to those members who have performed some worthy contribution to agricultural cooperation in the way of work or achievement. Each member organization, including commodity groups and general farm organizations, nominates three men for consideration. The council selects one man from each of the commodity groups and one from each general farm organization to receive these plaques.

The council maintains a legislative committee that keeps in touch with all measures and bills that come before the State legislature. Working through committees the council sponsors a wide educational program among its members, thus bringing about a close working relationship between them.

IDAHO COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

The active membership of the Idaho Cooperative Council includes the larger bona fide farmers' cooperative marketing and purchasing associations in the State. It has 48 members, principally composed of dairy associations, grain and seed cooperatives, livestock and poultry associations, and farmers' supply organizations. Associate memberships are available to general farm organizations, the State Agricultural College, the Extension Service, the State Department of Markets, and other public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement.

The council was organized in June 1930, through the united efforts of the Extension Service of the University of Idaho and the State leaders of agricultural cooperation, in response to the need for a better understanding of the principles of successful agricultural cooperation and in an endeavor to promote a sound development of farmers' cooperatives in the State.

Financial support is from membership fees. An active member pays an annual fee based on the gross volume of business as follows: \$5 minimum fee and \$5 for each additional \$100,000 or major fraction thereof in excess of \$200,000. An associate member pays an annual fee of \$5.

At all meetings of the association, each member has two representatives, but one vote only; an associate member may take part in the discussions, but has no voting power. No voting by proxy or by mail is permitted.

The affairs of the council are conducted by an executive committee of seven (including the president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer ex officio) chosen by the members at the annual meeting. Each member of the committee serves for 1 year.

The council has no employed personnel. It has been actively associated with the Extension Service of the University of Idaho in its educational programs and the extension marketing specialist serves the council as secretary-treasurer.

In addition to its annual meetings, the council often holds district meetings. Through these district meetings and circular letters the council keeps its members in close touch with current developments relating to agricultural cooperation and agriculture in general. While legislative problems have not been of major importance, the council has maintained a legislative committee which is active during the sessions of the State legislature. This committee has furnished the legislature with information on agricultural questions. The council was effective in securing a change in the State cooperative marketing law to include agricultural purchasing associations previously excluded.

In the spring of 1944, a meeting was held to discuss auditing problems, and a subcommittee of the council, known as the Idaho Council's Legal and Tax Committee, was organized. This committee is made up of attorneys and auditors who represent the member cooperatives. It was set up to provide information and to serve as a clearinghouse on legal and tax problems.

At its annual meeting in 1942, the council resolved to "combine our efforts in all matters of mutual interest with the general farm organizations of the State, and with the organized farm commodity and agricultural industry groups in Idaho to work toward a unified, broad, constructive legislative program both now and in the future."

GEORGIA COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

The Georgia Cooperative Council now has a membership of 37 cooperatives, including dairies, pecan growers, cotton associations, livestock organizations, rural electrification associations, and mutual fire insurance companies.

Although formed in the spring of 1932, the council was not successful in bringing the cooperatives together on a working basis until about 1937.

Membership of the council is open to any agricultural cooperative association organized and operating under the Georgia cooperative laws and engaged in rendering service to the farmers of the State. It provides associate memberships for general farm organizations, vocational departments, the State College of Agriculture, State Department of Agriculture, Extension Service, State Bureau of Markets, and other public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement.

Business activities of the council are conducted by a board of directors (including the president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer) that varies from 5 to 11. Each member represents a group and serves for 1 year.

In all business transactions, each member association has one vote. Voting by mail or by proxy is not permitted. The council does not employ any office personnel. Since it has a very close working relationship with the State Extension Service, the extension economist in marketing serves the council as secretary.

Much time and effort is given to spreading information regarding the benefits of cooperation and better cooperative methods and relations. Three 1-day cooperative schools have been held for small cooperatives in north Georgia and one in south Georgia. In January 1932, the council was instrumental in bringing the American Institute of Cooperation annual meeting to Atlanta.

Since the production of livestock and dairying are becoming increasingly important in the State, and trained experts are needed for meat and dairy inspections and other functions in connection with the meat and dairy industry, the council has urged the University of Georgia to reestablish the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Radio, news letters, meetings, and newspaper articles are used for disseminating information to members and to farm groups.

The council takes an active interest in State legislation. It was instrumental in obtaining for Georgia cooperatives exemption from State income taxes. It was also active in seeking passage of the Rural Electrification Administration Membership Corporation Act.

FARMERS COOPERATIVE COUNCIL OF NORTH CAROLINA¹

Any farmers' cooperative association owned and controlled by farmers, operated on a cooperative basis to perform marketing or purchasing services, and doing an annual volume of business of at least \$100,000, is eligible for membership in the Farmers Cooperative Council of North Carolina - the council was legally organized in 1935, though the first steps toward its formation were taken in July 1931 as the result of increased freight rates on farm commodities. Any association doing less than \$100,000 worth of business annually may become a member at the discretion of the executive committee.

General farm organizations such as the State Grange, State farm clubs, State Agricultural College, State commodity educational and promotional associations, State Department of Public Instruction, production credit associations, national farm loan associations, and any economic service agency interested in the improvement of the economic and social life of the State may become associate members.

Usually three or four meetings are held each year by the council to discuss problems of cooperatives and to formulate programs. The council has never participated in legislative activities. The State Grange maintains an active legislative representation and has given adequate service to the cooperatives, and the council has felt that more could be accomplished by continuing this satisfactory arrangement than by setting up a new arrangement for the same purpose. The principal program of the council has been of an educational and a promotional nature. Needs of cooperatives are analyzed, new cooperative organizations are promoted, and better relationships between the cooperative associations, the State Agricultural College, and other agencies are developed.

¹Some changes will be made in the council at the annual meeting in February 1945.

Financial support is by membership dues. Minimum dues are \$5 and the maximum is determined on the basis of gross sales from year to year as needed to meet the operating budget.

The affairs of the council are conducted by an executive committee of nine representatives, five of whom (including the president and the vice-president) are chosen from the members, and four from the associate members. Each representative serves for 1 year. The chairman of the committee appoints four special committees on legislation, education, organization, and social economic agencies to serve for 1 year. Members of the executive committee and special committees receive no compensation other than actual expenses for their services.

In all business matters each member has one vote only. Voting by proxy is not permitted, but voting by mail on special questions submitted to the member in advance is accepted. Associate members are not permitted to vote on matters pertaining specifically to farmers' cooperative marketing and purchasing associations.

The council employs no personnel. There has been close cooperation between it and the State Grange and the master of the Grange serves as secretary of the council.

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF FARMER CO-OPERATIVES

The membership of the council is made up of 45 cooperative marketing and purchasing associations representing approximately 75,000 farmers.

The group has fostered many State-wide meetings of agricultural cooperatives and has been an important factor in securing favorable legislation for cooperatives and in preventing enactment of unfair legislation that would affect cooperatives and agriculture in general.

In carrying out its educational program, the council has conducted demonstration contests throughout the State to encourage 4-H Club members and Smith-Hughes agricultural students to become more interested in the cooperative movement and to take an active part in cooperative marketing.

In 1938, the council sponsored the annual meeting of the American Institute of Cooperation which was held jointly at the State College of Washington and the University of Idaho.

The council has worked closely with the State Grange and the State Farm Bureau. In cooperation with these two organizations a foundation has been laid for widespread council activity in planning and coordinating a postwar cooperative program. Leaders of the cooperative movement are taking steps to provide more vital protection for farmer cooperatives during the postwar period by strengthening their organizations and educating the general public regarding cooperative operating principles and benefits.

Representatives of cooperative associations in Washington first became interested in forming a cooperative council as early as 1928. It was not until 1936, however, that the Washington State Cooperative Council was organized. In January 1944, the name was changed to the Washington State Council for Farmer Co-Operatives, to conform with the name of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, of which it is an associate member.

Prior to December 1944, the council maintained no office personnel. The administrative assistant of the State Extension Service served the council as secretary from 1936 to 1938. He then became State conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service and continued to serve the council until 1941. At its annual meeting in December 1944, the council arranged to employ him as full-time executive secretary. In the interim, the director of membership and public information of the Washington Co-Operative Egg and Poultry Association served as executive secretary.

COLORADO COOPERATIVE COUNCIL, INC.

The present Colorado Cooperative Council, Inc., is the result of reorganization in 1944 of the original group formed in 1937. It plans an extensive educational and legislative program, with first emphasis on the legislative part - opposition of the movement for a Federal income tax on the savings and reserves of cooperatives, proper amendments to the Colorado cooperative marketing laws, and reorganization of the State Department of Agriculture. Other programs will include consideration of many postwar problems of the Colorado cooperatives.

News letters and bulletins are issued as needed to keep members informed of current activities and situations.

The membership has been greatly increased since the reorganization. It represents associations marketing such commodities as grain, livestock, milk and milk products, fruits, beans, potatoes, and turkeys; purchasing farm supplies; and providing farm insurance services.

The new organization made provisions for regular, associate, and honorary memberships. Any regularly incorporated agricultural cooperative association engaged in marketing, bargaining, or the purchasing of farm products or in performing farm services is eligible for regular membership. Local incorporated or unincorporated associations may become associate members. Individuals and officials representing public or semipublic agencies interested in furthering the activities of the council or the cooperative movement may become honorary members by action of the board of directors.

The new council is supported by increased membership dues. Originally, a regular member paid an annual fee of \$10, an associate member \$5. Under the new set-up, each regular member pays \$25 for each fiscal year and is subject to an assessment in an equitable amount considered necessary to carry on the activities of the council, but not to exceed 1 percent of the net savings or balances remaining from operating deductions.

The membership fee for an associate member is \$10 without additional assessment; no fee is required of an honorary member. The board is authorized to accept any donations that will further the objectives of the council.

The affairs of the council are controlled by a board of not less than nine directors, including the president and the vice-president. The directors are divided into three groups, so as to stagger the years of election, and each member serves for a term of 3 years. The council employs an executive secretary who conducts its business under the direction of the board of directors.

Each regular member has one vote in any meeting. Representatives of associate and honorary members have all the privileges of the council, including the right to vote, but they cannot be elected to the board of directors. No voting can be done by proxy, but votes may be cast by mail on specially prepared ballots.

MAINE COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

With the formation of the Maine Cooperative Council in 1938 cooperative farm leaders in Maine were in a position to develop and promote a sound program for farmers' business organizations within the State.

The Maine council is comparatively new and has not developed an extensive program. It has been concerned chiefly with legislative proposals and revisions affecting cooperatives, and with a public relations program. Since the State of Maine does not have an adequate agricultural marketing act, the council has been seeking the enactment of a carefully prepared measure, and in 1944 the legislative committee of the council decided to present a uniform agricultural cooperative marketing bill to the legislature for approval. The legislature meets in 1945. The legislative committee has initiated and sponsored amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act that affect the hauling of farm products.

The council keeps its members informed of important current activities in the cooperative field through a news letter, *The Maine Cooperator*. This release is issued about every 3 months, and each year a number carries the report of the annual meeting.

Effective help has been rendered by the council in bringing representatives of Government agencies and leaders of various farm cooperatives together to iron out difficulties in doing business under wartime regulations.

The council sponsors cooperative short courses held at the Maine College of Agriculture.

Membership in the council is available to cooperatives owned and controlled by farmers, and operated to market farm products, purchase farm supplies, and perform farm business services. Any general farmers' organization such as the Grange or the Farm Bureau, and any public or semipublic agency interested in the success of cooperatives may become an associate member.

At the close of 1944, the membership was composed of 26 cooperatives marketing milk and milk products, potatoes, fruit, poultry, fertilizer, or forest products, and furnishing such services as artificial breeding and fire insurance. This number represents a little more than one-third of the cooperatives in the State. The Maine Farm Bureau Federation is an associate member.

The expenses of the council are met by membership fees. Each member pays an annual fee of \$5. No fee is required of an associate member.

A board of five trustees (including the president and vice-president) conducts the business of the council. Each trustee serves for a 1-year term. At annual and special meetings the voting power of each member is limited to one vote. A member may vote by mail on any specific question presented on a specially prepared ballot. Associate members are not entitled to vote, but they are permitted to attend all meetings and participate in the discussions.

As in some other States, the Maine council maintains a close working relationship with the Extension Service, and the marketing specialist of the Extension Service supplies the secretarial needs of the council. The financial set-up of the council does not enable it to employ any office personnel.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

The Florida Council of Farmer Cooperatives was organized in 1939. It is one of the newest State councils and its activities have increased rapidly.

The program of the council is primarily educational. News letters are sent at frequent intervals to keep the members informed on cooperative progress and farm policies. The council has no definite legislative program, but the members are notified of pending legislation affecting cooperatives. Considerable thought is being given to membership relations.

The Florida council works closely with the Columbia Bank for Cooperatives. They arrange to hold their annual meetings during the same week.

The present membership consists of 28 cooperatives. About 75 percent of the tonnage handled cooperatively in the State is represented by these associations. Commodities marketed include vegetables, citrus, livestock, dairy feed, milk and milk products, avocados, limes, and sugar. Purchasing and service organizations also are represented in the membership.

Any bona fide agricultural cooperative association engaged in marketing farm products, purchasing farm supplies, or providing farm business services, with an annual business of \$100,000, or more, may become a member of the council. An association whose business is less than \$100,000 may be elected to membership in the discretion of the board of directors.

General farm organizations, commodity educational and promotional State organizations, State organizations of agricultural clubs, and divisions of public agencies may become associate members.

At the annual or any special called meeting, each member has one representative with voting power. Voting by proxy and by mail are not permitted. An associate member may attend all meetings and take part in the discussions, but has no voting power. Annual membership dues are fixed by the board of directors, but must not exceed \$25. Up to the present time the fee has been \$10 per member. Additional levies, if needed, can be made on members, but only with unanimous consent. Associate members are not required to pay any fee, but they may contribute funds.

Business of the council is conducted by a board of directors of not less than 5 or more than 12 members, chosen at the annual meeting. At present, the board consists of 11 members. They are divided into three classes of as nearly equal numbers as possible, so as to stagger the elections. One class is elected each year and each director serves for a term of 3 years.

The president appoints the following standing committees, who serve for 1 year: (a) legislative, (b) educational, (c) organizations, (d) social economic agencies, and (e) special. The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and the chairmen of these committees make up the executive committee, the duties of which are delegated by the board of directors.

The Florida council has no full-time personnel. Since it is closely associated with the Extension Service, the State extension economist serves as secretary.

UTAH COUNCIL OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

In March 1942, the Utah Council of Farmer Cooperatives was organized and incorporated under the cooperative law of Utah.

The council is undertaking a positive program to safeguard the interests of the cooperative movement in Utah. It also is preparing to launch an educational program to acquaint more people of the State with cooperative methods of doing business. At a recent meeting, steps were taken to organize a speakers' bureau composed of key leaders from cooperatives of the State, who would be available to fill speaking assignments with the Lions Club, Kiwanis, Rotary Club, and other community organizations. Through this medium it is thought that some of the unfavorable comments being circulated against cooperatives can be corrected.

During the 2 years of its operation the council has formed a committee to work on the sales tax liability of dairy cooperatives, submitted proposals for the preservation of underground water, and proposed amendments to the Utah mortgage law. It has devoted considerable time to the

adjustment of inconsistencies in the relations between agriculture and the war agencies in the State, and has taken steps to obtain favorable measures on parity prices and price ceilings for agricultural products.

From time to time, news letters and special circulars are sent to members to acquaint them with important current activities.

The council plans to sponsor a short course for the personnel of cooperatives on accounting procedures, legal aspects, membership relations, and special problems of cooperation. Major attention will be given to income tax problems and postwar planning for cooperatives.

At the close of 1944, the council had a membership of 31 farmer cooperative associations representing approximately 20,000 farmers in the State of Utah. These 31 associations consist chiefly of dairy, poultry, livestock, wool, fruit, and vegetable marketing organizations.

The council has both active and associate memberships. Any agricultural cooperative association, owned and controlled by its farmer members, and operated on a cooperative basis to perform marketing, purchasing, or farm services without profit is eligible for membership. General farm organizations, representatives of the Utah State Agricultural College, the Agricultural Extension Service, Utah State Department of Agriculture, and any public or semipublic agency interested in furthering the cooperative movement may become associate members. Each member is entitled to two or more representatives, but to one vote only, and the associate member has two representatives with no voting power. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

The council is supported by membership fees, paid in advance and calculated upon the basis of the gross volume of business for the last fiscal year preceding the due date of the fee as follows: \$5 minimum fee, and \$5 additional for each \$100,000 or major fraction thereof in excess of \$200,000, but not to exceed \$25. Each associate member pays in advance an annual fee of \$5.

A board of seven directors (including the president and vice-president) conducts the affairs of the council. The number of directors is divided into three classes in order to stagger the elections, and the directors in each class are elected for a term of 3 years. No commodity group can have more than one representative on the board.

The board of directors appoints an executive committee to take charge of some of the business duties. At present the board is assisted by an executive committee of seven.

Originally it was planned to hold a meeting of the executive committee once a month, but since Salt Lake City is a central point for most of the cooperatives operating in the State, cooperative leaders, in addition to the executive committee, felt the need of meeting together there once a month. Now the council meets the second Monday of each month for 2 or 3 hours to discuss current problems.

No office force is maintained by the council. Since it has a very close working relationship with the Utah Agricultural Extension Service, the State extension economist serves as secretary to the council.

The council works closely with the State Farm Bureau, whose executive secretary rarely misses a meeting. Good working relationships have been established with the State Department of Agriculture and the Utah State Agricultural College.

TEXAS FEDERATION OF COOPERATIVES

The Texas Federation of Cooperatives was organized in June 1942. The officers were elected in August at the fifth annual meeting of the State Cooperative Institute sponsored by the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College. At this time the place of cooperative organizations in the war effort and their expected development in the postwar period were of utmost concern to their leaders.

The federation engages primarily in educational services to farmers' associations, encouraging new cooperatives and promoting old ones. As cooperatives are assuming a bigger role in the business activity of the country, the federation is acquainting the general public with the principles of cooperation and the mutual benefits derived from cooperative business.

Some legislative activities affecting the entire agricultural field are undertaken, but more effort is turned toward educational matters. A monthly release, the *Texas Federation News*, is issued to keep the members informed on the cooperative movement in Texas.

The federation maintains a regular office force, and programs are being formulated whereby Texas cooperatives will take their place in postwar business.

Membership in the federation is open to cooperative organizations, leagues, credit unions, or federations of the same, which subscribe to the fundamental principles of cooperation. At the close of 1944, the membership embraced 32 cooperative associations made up of cotton, grain, dairy, citrus, peanut, and purchasing organizations. Social organizations, educational associations, and organizations not cooperative in form but interested in the promotion of cooperation, are admitted as fraternal members.

In the annual and special meetings, each member is entitled to at least one representative delegate and to an additional delegate for each 500 members above the first 500. Each member has one voting delegate who is selected by caucus at the meeting where it has more than one delegate. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

The federation is supported by membership dues. Each member pays 5 cents for each member of his cooperative in good standing at the first of each

calendar year. Dues are not to exceed \$250 per year. The board may accept contributions for special purposes from district organizations, or funds from other organizations or from individuals sympathetic to the cooperative movement.

The affairs of the federation are administered by a board of not less than 7 and not more than 11 directors, including the president and vice-president. From their number the directors elect an executive committee of three which transacts the business. The board appoints an advisory committee of 12 members, one selected from each district of the State Agricultural Extension Service, to advise and otherwise assist in promoting the affairs of the federation. All elective officers, except the directors, serve for terms of 2 years and appointees remain in office until replaced. The number of directors is divided into three classes, to stagger the elections, and each class serves for 3 years. At present the board has 11 members.

OHIO COUNCIL OF FARM COOPERATIVES

In the short period in which the Ohio Council has been functioning, it has helped to solve some of the more serious cooperative problems of the State. One of its first activities was to secure amendments to the Ohio Cooperative Marketing Law, which now more adequately serves the needs of cooperative organizations. It has held numerous conferences on farm labor problems, transportation needs, taxation, and various legislative matters affecting cooperatives.

A more intensive program of education has just been adopted by the council whereby cooperatives and farm organizations will be instructed through county, township, and community meetings. Competent speakers will address civic groups, labor organizations, club luncheons, and bankers' associations. Daily and weekly newspapers, magazines, and the radio are being used to acquaint the general public with functions and benefits of farm cooperatives.

Another program of the council is to help increase benefits to cooperatives through the joint use of trucks, facilities, and personnel. Already much has been accomplished in this field. A council committee is working closely with State agencies on many postwar plans that will directly and indirectly affect cooperatives.

The council was organized November 11, 1942. It differs somewhat from a large number of the State councils in that its membership is made up entirely of major or federated organizations and State-wide general farm organizations.

Any major agricultural cooperative association or federation of associations, owned and controlled by farmers who are its members, and operated on a cooperative basis to perform marketing or purchasing services is eligible for membership.

At present the membership is made up of seven associations consisting of two federations (milk producers and egg cooperatives), two major cooperatives (livestock producers and wool growers), and three general farm organizations, Ohio Farmers Cooperative Grain Dealers Association, Cooperative Department of the Ohio State Grange, and the Farm Bureau Cooperative Association.

The council is financed by membership fees based on the gross volume of business done by each member for the last fiscal year preceding the due date of the membership fee, as follows: \$5 minimum fee and \$5 additional for each \$100,000, or major fraction thereof, in excess of \$100,000, but not to exceed \$25.

In the transaction of business, each association has one vote. Voting by proxy is not permitted, but upon a resolution by the board members they may vote by mail or by ballots prepared by the secretary.

The affairs of the council are conducted by a board of directors not to exceed nine. If the board sees fit, it may appoint an executive committee, including the president, vice-president, and three other members of the board. The number of directors is divided into three groups in order to stagger elections. Each director serves for a term of 3 years. At the present time, the council has a board of seven directors and an executive committee of the required five.

No member of the board or any other officer of the council has received any compensation for services rendered to the council. But in the latter part of 1944, the council made arrangements to employ a full-time office staff, to serve until the completion of a special program. Prior to that time, the secretary-manager of the Ohio Wool Growers Cooperative Association served as secretary to the council.

VERMONT COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

The Vermont Cooperative Council was the first organization of cooperatives in the State to cover all commodities or all groups of cooperatives. The annual cooperative conference, at Plainfield, served a few years as a clearinghouse for information to cooperatives, but it was of too brief duration for cumulative results. On November 15, 1944, the council was incorporated under the Vermont State law and established a full-time office personnel to carry out a broad program of education, information, and service for all cooperatives in the State.

With the employment of an executive secretary, the council is planning a rather comprehensive program. It is endeavoring to coordinate the activities of cooperatives in order that the maximum effectiveness of cooperation will benefit all the people in the State. Some of the mediums employed to obtain beneficial results for members and others interested in the cooperative movement are meetings, news letters, courses, contests, and releases to daily and weekly newspapers and to the agricultural press.

The council has no regular radio programs, but frequently participates in programs sponsored by other organizations. It is conducting courses for cooperative insurance agents and store-managers at Goddard College, Plainfield, Vermont. Each month a news letter, *Cooperative Council Briefs*, is mailed to the directors and managers of the member cooperatives, and attached to this letter is a monthly calendar of cooperative events giving the name and meeting time of each. A column, *Co-ops in the News*, by the executive secretary appears monthly in the Vermont Farm Bureau News, which reaches approximately 20,000 families in the State.

The membership is composed of cooperative organizations, owned and controlled by farmers, engaged in marketing farm commodities, purchasing farm supplies, and rendering farm services. At the close of 1944 the council had 30 members.

At present the method of financing the council is on a rather informal basis with milk marketing cooperatives paying 25 cents per member; credit cooperatives, 8 cents per member; rural electrification associations, 10 cents per member; and smaller cooperatives such as stores and locker plants, a nominal fee of \$10.

ARIZONA COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

Formed January 27, 1943, the Arizona Cooperative Council has been concerned primarily with an educational program. It has a close working relationship with the Arizona Department of Vocational Education. In 1943, the department and the council jointly sponsored a detailed course in cooperative marketing and buying for farmers. The course not only covered the principles and practices of cooperatives in the United States, but embodied the cooperative movements in Canada, the British Isles, and Sweden. The members of the council and the Vo-ag teachers united their efforts in forming study courses for the farmers throughout the State. The courses were to continue for 12 sessions in successive weeks, but were shortened to 8 sessions. Owing to the shortage of manpower that developed, the farmers found little time after their long working hours to take the courses and they were set aside until after the war.

The council is represented on the Agricultural Planning Committee of the Arizona Resources and Planning Board which is to work on the postwar aspects of the problems of cooperatives.

The legislative committee of the council has spent some time studying the Arizona Cooperative Act preparatory to requesting the State legislature to repeal the present act and pass a standard law.

The Arizona State Federation of Labor, in recognition of the functions of the council, requested its assistance in preparing a series of articles on cooperation which appeared in their paper, *Arizona Labor Journal*. The State Federation of Labor is much interested in getting cooperative activities under way among labor groups.

Any cooperative association owned and controlled by farmers is eligible for membership in the council. Associate memberships are open to organizations or representatives of public or semipublic agencies interested in the success of the cooperative movement.

At the close of 1944, the council had 13 members consisting of citrus associations, fruit growers, livestock and poultry producers, and farmers' supply associations. The Arizona Department of Vocational Education is an associate member.

The affairs of the council are managed by a board of seven directors, including the president, the two vice-presidents, and the secretary-treasurer. The directors are divided into three groups so as to stagger the elections. Directors in each class serve terms 3 years without compensation except for necessary expenses in attending meetings.

In all business sessions of the council each member is entitled to two representatives, but to one vote only. Associate members may participate in all meetings, but they hold no voting power.

The council is supported by membership dues as follows: Each member association having 200 members or less pays \$10 per year, and each association having more than 200 members pays \$25. Associate members each pay \$10 per year.

No regular office force is maintained by the council. Temporary stenographic workers are employed as needed.

LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

The Louisiana Council of Farmer Cooperatives was organized and incorporated under the State laws of Louisiana on February 11, 1943.

Its principal activity has been to provide its members with information on current cooperative activities. Informative bulletins and news letters are issued at various intervals. Information also is furnished to local radio stations which have agricultural programs.

In 1944 a complete census of the cooperatives in the State was taken by the council, as the first step in a program to properly present cooperatives to the general public. The council plans a comprehensive legislative service to the farm interests in the State.

The membership consists of 20 large cooperative associations principally engaged in marketing rice, sugar, cotton, and tung oil; and in purchasing farm supplies.

The council provides for both active and associate memberships. Any agricultural cooperative association engaged in marketing farm commodities, purchasing farm supplies, or providing farm services may become an active member. The associate members include general farm organizations, representatives of educational agencies, and other public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement.

Each member has one representative with voting power on the council. Every associate member is entitled to one representative, who is permitted to attend all meetings and participate in the discussions but has no voting privilege.

The membership fee is based on the volume of business done by the association for the last fiscal year as follows: \$25 minimum fee and \$12.50 additional for each \$100,000, or fraction thereof in excess of \$200,000, but not to exceed \$100. An associate member is not required to pay any fee, but may contribute funds.

The affairs of the council are conducted by a board of seven directors (including the president and the vice-president), who are elected for terms of 1 year. From this number an executive committee of three (including the president as chairman) is appointed. No member of the board nor any other officer receives any compensation for services which he renders the council.

The council maintains no paid personnel. Through an arrangement with the Louisiana Agricultural Cooperative, Inc., the assistant executive secretary serves the council as secretary.

KANSAS COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

The growth and diversification of cooperatives in Kansas called for an organization that would include all branches of the cooperative movement within the State. Also, the attack upon cooperatives in connection with a proposed Federal income tax on patronage refunds gave impetus to plans for the organization of a State council, so the Kansas Cooperative Council, conforming to the laws of Kansas, was organized in 1944 to serve the cooperatives of the State.

The leaders who sponsored it feel that it should afford the cooperatives of the State guidance and educational, legislative, and promotional services, and help to present to the public a complete picture of the cooperative movement on world, national, State, and local levels.

The council has a rather extensive program planned, and in the few months of its operation has made much progress in its contacts with cooperatives. Tours over the State have been made to arrange for meetings to discuss tax questions with managers, directors, and patrons. Representatives from all farm organizations, including marketing, purchasing, farm supply service, consumer and credit associations, are brought together in these meetings. Close contact is maintained with the State legislature and with Kansas representatives in the United States Congress.

A research department to gather information for dissemination to members is already functioning. About every 2 weeks a news bulletin is issued to members and to those interested in the activities of cooperatives in the State. Later the council plans to publish a State cooperative paper.

The council's membership is limited to general farm organizations, State-wide cooperatives, and regional cooperatives. After a few months operation, the council had 11 members, consisting of seven State-wide and regional cooperative associations performing marketing and purchasing services, the Kansas State Grange, the Kansas Farm Bureau, the Farm Credit Administration of Wichita, and the Kansas Credit Union League.

At all meetings each member is entitled to only one representative with voting power. Representatives are not permitted to vote by proxy or by mail. The organization is set up with a capital of \$1,000 and a membership fee of \$10 is required of each member upon admittance.

A board of five directors (including the president and vice president), elected annually, employs an executive secretary who conducts the business of the council under the general direction of the board. The executive secretary employs other personnel, agents, or lawyers as needed.

The directors are reimbursed for actual traveling expenses while on duty and, in addition, receive \$10 per diem for attendance at meetings of the board.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF CO-OPERATIVES

The Wisconsin Association of Co-Operatives was formed in August 1944. It is one of the State-wide organizations set up to supplement the work of the National Association of Co-Operatives in an endeavor to foster cooperatives and further their activities. It is still in the formative stages but future programs are being planned to provide information and services to cooperatives and to acquaint the general public with their set-up and benefits. It will employ an executive secretary and office personnel.

The membership of the association is limited to cooperatives, local and regional, organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, or licensed to operate in the State as cooperatives. At the close of 1944, the association had 141 members. The membership represents a cross section of all the cooperatives in the State.

Provisions are made for financing the association by membership fees based on the annual gross volume of business of each member as follows: Less than \$50,000 volume, \$25; \$50,000 to \$74,999, \$50; \$75,000 to \$99,999, \$75; and \$100,000 or more, \$100.

Management is vested in a board of 15 directors, elected annually, 8 of whom are designated as district directors and 7 as directors at large. Each director receives \$5 per day or part day plus 5 cents per mile for distance traveled for attendance at board meetings. The directors may elect an executive committee of three or more to act for the association between meetings of the directors.

TENNESSEE COUNCIL OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

The Tennessee Council of Farmer Cooperatives was organized and incorporated under the Tennessee State laws in April 1944. The new association was formed to meet the present day needs of farmer cooperatives for educational and legislative services. The Tennessee Council of Agriculture was set up in 1931, but had not been active for some time. The activities of the new organization were very limited in 1944, but an extensive program is expected to get under way in 1945.

The membership is made up of agricultural cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm service associations. General farm organizations, representatives of educational institutions, and public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement are elected each year to associate membership. An active member is entitled to one vote in the affairs of the council and voting may be done by proxy.

The council is supported by annual membership fees based on the gross volume of business transacted by each association. The minimum fee is \$25. No fee is required of associate members.

A board of nine directors has charge of the affairs of the council. An executive committee of three from the board of directors looks after the details of the business. The directors are reimbursed for necessary traveling expenses incurred in attending meetings.

SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF COOPERATIVES

Among the organizations of cooperatives to begin operations early in 1945 is the South Dakota Association of Cooperatives. It was formed October 2, 1944, and held its first regular meeting on December 2.

The membership is made up of cooperative associations marketing such commodities as livestock, wool, grain, milk and milk products, providing general farm supplies and petroleum products, and furnishing such services as mutual insurance and rural electrification.

The business of the organization will be administered by a board of nine directors, representing different commodity groups. The association will be financed by membership fees based on the gross income of business done by the members. Associations with \$100,000 volume or less will pay \$10 and others will pay up to \$100 annually, according to their volume.

IOWA COUNCIL OF COOPERATION

The objectives of the Iowa Council of Cooperation include everything in "the interests and welfare of Iowa agricultural cooperatives and Iowa cooperatives which act as marketing and purchasing agents for producers of agricultural products." The council plans an educational program to foster and promote cooperatives.

The council was formed on November 24, 1944. The membership is composed of State and regional agricultural cooperatives. No regular method has been determined for collecting finances to maintain the council, but the members have contributed \$200 each to an initial fund. The affairs of the council are administered by a board of seven directors.

KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE COUNCIL

The Kentucky Cooperative Council was organized in 1935 and was active for about 5 years. Lack of interest and enterprise on the part of the member cooperatives caused it to become inactive until June 1944, when some of the local cooperative leaders decided to revive the organization. A committee, formed to work out a program and build up the membership, plans to complete the organization work and have the council functioning early in 1945.

ARKANSAS COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURE

The Arkansas Council for Agriculture was formed about 1928, and was reorganized in 1931. No definite constructive program was developed and, after about 5 years, activities were practically suspended.

Interest is now being revived, however, and the council may be reorganized within a short time.

The membership consisted largely of rice and cotton marketing associations. Some educational work was done among cooperatives, but the council had no provision for funds to carry on any extensive work. Several member associations supplied the necessary funds for the formation of a speakers' bureau to furnish speakers for luncheon clubs, civic organizations, farmers' meetings, and other groups to further cooperative marketing. The council cooperated to some extent in holding a cooperative marketing school.

The organization did not maintain any office personnel. At one time the manager of the Arkansas Farm Bureau devoted some time to the business affairs, and the extension economist of the Extension Department of the University of Arkansas served as secretary to the council.

OTHER STATE ORGANIZATIONS

The Wyoming Cooperative Council, Inc., was formed late in 1944, but no information on its organization features or program is at hand.

Three organizations - Indiana Cooperative Marketing Council, Missouri Cooperative Council, and the Federation of Iowa Farm Organizations - were set up in 1931 but, so far as can be determined, ceased to function some time ago. New groups of cooperatives are contemplated in Nebraska, Missouri, and Connecticut.

The Pennsylvania Council of Farm Organizations was not included in this report, since its program is much broader than that of the groups discussed and its membership is made up of all types of farm organizations.

State conference boards are performing some educational and legislative services for cooperatives. The Agricultural Board of Virginia was set up in 1929 to protect and foster the mutual interests of farm people in Virginia. The membership includes general farm and home organizations, commodity educational associations, and cooperative business associations. The board is financed by annual membership dues - business organizations pay dues in proportion to the volume of business and organizations not engaged in commercial business pay a flat fee. Cooperatives as well as general farm organizations receive benefits through the action of the board.

The New York State Conference Board of Farm Organizations is interested in furthering cooperatives and, as most of the State councils, is enlarging its program.

DIRECTORY

STATE COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF COOPERATIVES

DECEMBER 1944

Arkansas	Arkansas Council for Agriculture (to be reorganized) C. G. Henry, President c/o Mid-South Cotton Growers Association Memphis, Tennessee
Arizona	Cooperative Council of Arizona E. J. Mehren, Secretary-Treasurer 73 North Country Club Drive Phoenix, Arizona
California	Agricultural Council of California R. H. Taylor, Executive Secretary 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, California
Colorado	Colorado Cooperative Council, Inc. Ben H. Cook, Executive Secretary 720 South Canosa Court Denver, Colorado
Florida	Florida Council of Farmer Cooperatives D. E. Timmons, Secretary University Station Gainesville, Florida
Georgia	Georgia Cooperative Council C. G. Garner, Secretary c/o College of Agriculture Athens, Georgia

Idaho	Idaho Cooperative Council C. O. Youngstrom, Secretary Room B-7, State Capitol Building Boise, Idaho
Iowa	Iowa Council of Cooperation A. B. Cline, Secretary-Treasurer Valley Bank Building Des Moines, Iowa
Kansas	Kansas Cooperative Council Charles A. Richard, Executive Secretary 1212 National Bank of Topeka Bldg. Topeka, Kansas
Kentucky	Kentucky Cooperative Council (No information)
Louisiana	Louisiana Council of Farmer Cooperatives P. T. Ecton, Secretary-Treasurer Box 949 Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Maine	Maine Cooperative Council R. N. Atherton, Secretary c/o College of Agriculture Orono, Maine
North Carolina	Farmers Cooperative Council Harry B. Caldwell, Secretary Greensboro, North Carolina
Ohio	Ohio Council of Farm Cooperatives L. A. Kauffman, Secretary 2050 South High Street Columbus, Ohio
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council A. W. Jacob, Secretary c/o Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College Stillwater, Oklahoma
Oregon	Agricultural Cooperative Council of Oregon Paul C. Carpenter, Secretary c/o Oregon State College Corvallis, Oregon
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Association of Cooperative Organizations K. M. Souders, Secretary-Treasurer Coatesville, Pennsylvania

South Dakota	South Dakota Association of Cooperation Geo. E. Anderson, Secretary (no address available)
Tennessee	Tennessee Council of Farmer Cooperatives A. L. Jerdan, Secretary-Treasurer College of Agriculture University of Tennessee Nashville, Tennessee
Texas	Texas Federation of Cooperatives B. E. Stallones, Secretary 3600 Center Street Houston, Texas
Utah	Utah Council of Farmer Cooperatives G. Alvin Carpenter, Secretary c/o Utah State Agricultural College Logan, Utah
Vermont	Vermont Cooperative Council W. G. Loveless, Executive Secretary 73 Main Street Montpelier, Vermont
Washington	Washington State Council of Farmer Cooperatives Harry B. Carroll, Executive Secretary 201 Elliott Avenue West Seattle 99, Washington
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Council of Agriculture Milo K. Swanton, Secretary-Treasurer 614 Tenny Building Madison 3, Wisconsin
	Wisconsin Cooperative Council, Inc. Melvin Mason, Secretary-Treasurer Box 1000 Superior, Wisconsin
Wyoming	Wyoming Cooperative Council, Inc. Leslie P. Miles, Executive Secretary Wyoming National Bank Bldg. Casper, Wyoming

December 1944

NAME OF COUNCIL OR ASSOCIATION	DATE OF ORGANIZATION	YEARS OF OPERATION	MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DUES		VOTING		PERSONNEL	REMARKS		
				NUMBER OF ACTIVE MEMBERS	NUMBER OF DIRECTORS	ASSOCIATE ACTIVE	VOTES BY MEMBER	VOTES BY PROXY	BY MAIL		
Agricultural Council of California*	1919	25	Active - farmers' commodity and service organizations and farmers' cooperative marketing, purchasing, and service associations	32	None	9	Minimum fee of \$100 - assessment at the rate of \$100 for each \$1,000,000 gross f.o.b. business (has ranged from \$100 to \$125 per \$1,000,000)	-	1	-	Employs secretary and office personnel
Agricultural Cooperative Council of Oregon*	1921	23	Active - agricultural cooperative marketing or supply associations, State-Wide general farm organizations Associate - representatives of educational organizations and public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement	55	15	5	Minimum fee of \$5 - fee not to exceed 5 cents for each \$1,000 gross f.o.b. shipping point basis (highest levy to date is 2½ cents per \$1,000)	\$5	1	No <u>1/ Yes</u>	No employed personnel. Secretary in cooperation with Extension Service, Oregon State College
Wisconsin Council of Agriculture (Co-operative)*	1926	18	Active - general educational farm organizations, cooperative marketing and purchasing associations, and other organizations composed primarily of farmers promoting welfare of agriculture Ex officio advisory - representatives of educational and administrative agricultural organizations	39	39	7	\$5 initial membership fee - annual dues; general educational and welfare associations pay \$50 plus 1 percent of total membership fees received last fiscal year; marketing, purchasing, or bargaining associations pay \$50 plus 1 percent of association income for last fiscal year	None <u>2/10</u>	No	-	Employs secretary and office personnel
Pennsylvania Association of Co-operative Organizations	1926	18	Active - incorporated agricultural cooperative marketing, purchasing, and bargaining associations	25	10	None	\$10 annual membership fee per member	-	1	<u>3/ Yes</u> <u>3/ No</u>	No employed personnel - Manager of Producers Cooperative Exchange serves as secretary
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council*	1929	15	Active - major cooperative associations and State-wide general farm organizations Associate - representatives of educational organizations and public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement	8	-	3	\$10 annual fee - additional funds raised by special assessment	None	1	-	No employed personnel - extension economist in marketing of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College serves as secretary

14	1930	Idaho Cooperative Council	48	Active - agricultural cooperative marketing and purchasing associations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational organizations, and other public or semi-public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement	7	None	\$5	1	No	No employed personnel - extension marketing specialist of University of Idaho Extension Service serves as secretary
		Georgia Cooperative Council ^{4/}	37	Active - cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm service associations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational organizations, and public agencies interested in furthering cooperation	5-11	-	None	1	No	No employed personnel - extension economist serves as secretary
		Farmers Cooperative Council of North Carolina ^{5/}	1935	Active - cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm service associations with annual business of \$100,000 or more. Associations with less than \$100,000 at the discretion of the executive committee Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational organizations, and any public agency interested in the success of the cooperative movement	9	None	\$5 minimum fee. Maximum fee determined on the basis of gross sales from year to year to meet the needs of the budget	1	No	No employed personnel. Master of the State Grange now serves as secretary
		Washington State Council of Farmer Cooperatives	1936	Active - agricultural cooperative marketing and purchasing associations (No information on any other)	45	9	No information	1	-	Employed full-time executive secretary and office personnel
		Colorado Cooperative Council, Inc.	1937 Reorganized 1944	Regular - incorporated cooperative marketing, bargaining, purchasing, or farm service associations Associate - local incorporated or unincorporated cooperative associations Honorary individuals and officials of public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement	7	-	\$25 fee subject to additional fee not to exceed 1 percent of net savings	1	No	Yes Employed executive secretary
		Maine Cooperative Council	1938	Active - cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm service organizations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational organizations, and public agencies interested in the success of the cooperative movement	6	5	\$5 annual membership fee	1	No	8/ Yes No employed personnel - marketing specialist of State extension service acts as secretary

STATE COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

December 1944 - continued

NAME OF COUNCIL OR ASSOCIATION	DATE OF ORGANIZATION	YEARS OF OPERATION	MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DUES			VOTING			PERSONNEL	REMARKS
				NUMBER OF ACTIVE MEMBERS	NUMBER OF DIRECTORS	ACTIVE	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	VOTES BY PROXY	VOTES BY MAIL		
Florida Council of Farmer Cooperatives*	1939	5	Active - cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm-service associations with annual business of \$100,000 or more. Associations with less than \$100,000 at the discretion of the board of directors.	28	5-12	9 May vary according to number of standing committees	Fixed by board of directors. Provisions for fee not to exceed \$25. To date has been \$10	None	1	No	No employed personnel. State agricultural extension economist serves as secretary
Utah Council of Farmer Cooperatives*	1942	2	Active - cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm-service associations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational organizations and public agencies interested in the furtherance of cooperation	31	7	7 \$5 minimum fee, and \$5 additional for each \$100,000 of business, or major fraction thereof in excess of \$200,000, but not to exceed \$25	\$5	1	No	-	No employed personnel. Extension economist in marketing of the State College Extension Service acts as secretary
Texas Federation of Cooperatives	1942	2	Active - cooperative organizations, leagues, credit unions, or federations of same which subscribe to the principles of cooperation	32	7-11	3 5 cents for every member in good standing at first of calendar year - dues not to exceed \$250	None	1	No	-	Employs secretary and office personnel
Ohio Council of Farm Cooperatives*	1942	2	Active - major agricultural cooperatives marketing and purchasing associations or federations of associations owned and controlled by farmers	7	7	3 \$5 minimum fee, and \$5 additional for each \$100,000 of business or major fraction thereof in excess of \$100,000, but not to exceed \$25	-	1	No	Yes upon board resolution	Employs secretary
Vermont Cooperative Council	1942	2	Active - agricultural cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm service associations	30	-	-	At present - milk marketing cooperatives pay 25 cents per member; credit corporations, 8 cents per member; rural electrification associations, 10 cents per member; smaller cooperatives such as stores and locker plants, a nominal fee of \$10	-	-	-	Employs executive secretary

Arizona Cooperative Council	1943	1	Active - any cooperative association owned and controlled by farmers Associate - any organization or any representative of a public agency interested in the cooperative movement	13	7	None	\$10 per year for associations with 200 members or less; \$25 per year for associations having more than 200 members	\$10	1	-	No employed personnel
Louisiana Council of Farmer Cooperatives*	1943	1	Active - farmers' cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm service associations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational agencies, and public agencies interested in furthering cooperation	20	7	3	\$25 minimum fee and \$12.50 additional for each \$100,000 of business, or fraction thereof, in excess of \$200,000, but not to exceed \$100	None	1	No	No employed personnel. Assistant extension secretary of Louisiana Agricultural Cooperative, Inc., serves as secretary
Kansas Cooperative Council**	1944	-	Active - general farm organizations. State-wide cooperative, and regional cooperative associations	11	5	None	Set up with capital of \$1,000. Membership fee of \$10 per year	-	1	No	Employs executive secretary and office personnel
Wisconsin Association of Co-operatives**	1944	-	Active - local and regional farm cooperative associations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational and public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement	141	15	None	\$25 for associations with less than \$50,000 gross volume of business; \$50 for associations with \$50,000-\$74,999; \$75 for associations \$75,000-\$99,999; \$100 for associations with \$100,000 or more	-	1	No	Employs office personnel
Tennessee*	1944	-	Active - farmers' cooperative marketing, purchasing, and farm business service associations Associate - general farm organizations, representatives of educational and public agencies interested in furthering the cooperative movement	9	3	None	Minimum fee of \$25 dues based on gross volume of business fixed by board of directors	None	1	Yes	Reimbursed for necessary traveling expenses incurred in attending meetings
Iowa Council of Cooperatives*	1944	-	No definite information	9							
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives**	1944	-	No definite information	9							
Wyoming Cooperative Council, Inc.	1944	-	No definite information	5							
Kentucky Cooperative Council	1935	5	Inactive from 1940 - June 1944; expects to resume functions 1945								
Arkansas Council for Cooperatives*	1928		Inactive; activities to be resumed								

1/ On special questions or measures.
2/ Determined by the executive committee on basis of membership in member association.

3/ On legislative questions.
4/ Did not begin functioning until 1937.

5/ Some changes will be made in the council at annual meeting in February 1945.
6/ Special questions or measures submitted on specially prepared ballot.

* Affiliated with National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.
** Affiliated with National Association of Cooperatives.

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